

Claims

- [c1] 1.Fishing tackle comprising:
a fish hook; and
a bait-attachment clip fixed relative to the hook.
- [c2] 2.The tackle as claimed in claim 1,
said hook including a shaft portion, a barbed end spaced
from the shaft portion, and a bend disposed between the
shaft portion and the barbed end.
- [c3] 3.The tackle as claimed in claim 2,
said clip including a jaw shiftably coupled relative to the
shaft portion,
said jaw being shiftable into and out of a clamping posi-
tion wherein the jaw is adapted to clamp bait between
the jaw and the shaft portion.
- [c4] 4.The tackle as claimed in claim 3,
said jaw being yieldably biased into the clamping posi-
tion.
- [c5] 5.The tackle as claimed in claim 4,
said clip further including a spring received between the
jaw and the shaft portion.

- [c6] 6.The tackle as claimed in claim 5,
said hook further including an eyelet adjacent said shaft
portion,
said shaft portion being disposed between said eyelet
and said bend,
said spring being positioned generally between said eye-
let and said bend.
- [c7] 7.The tackle as claimed in claim 1,
said clip including first and second jaws shiftably cou-
pled together.
- [c8] 8.The tackle as claimed in claim 7,
each of said jaws presenting corresponding first and
second oppositely spaced jaw ends,
said jaws being shiftable relative to each other into and
out of a clamping position wherein the first jaw ends are
adjacent one another and the second jaw ends are
spaced from one another.
- [c9] 9.The tackle as claimed in claim 8,
said jaws being yieldably biased into the clamping posi-
tion.
- [c10] 10.The tackle as claimed in claim 9,
said clip further including a spring coupled between the
jaws and positioned generally between the first and sec-

ond jaw ends thereof.

- [c11] 11.The tackle as claimed in claim 8,
said hook including an eyelet formed in one end thereof
and an opposed barbed end spaced from said eyelet,
said hook further including a shaft portion extending
between said opposed ends,
said hook further including a first bend disposed be-
tween the barbed end and the shaft portion and a sec-
ond bend disposed between the shaft portion and the
eyelet.
- [c12] 12.The tackle as claimed in claim 11,
said second jaw end of said first jaw defining an aperture
therein configured to be slidably received over the
barbed end of the hook and prevented from sliding over
the eyelet,
said aperture being received on said second bend so that
the first jaw is adjacent to and extends generally parallel
with the shaft portion of the hook.
- [c13] 13.The tackle as claimed in claim 12; and
a sleeve encirclingly received around the shaft portion
and the first jaw end of the first jaw to retain the first jaw
in the generally parallel relationship with the shaft por-
tion.

- [c14] 14. The tackle as claimed in claim 1; and coupling means for removably coupling the clip to the hook.
- [c15] 15. The tackle as claimed in claim 14, said coupling means including a flexible sleeve slidably received around at least a portion of the hook and at least a portion of the clip.
- [c16] 16. Fishing tackle for coupling a lure to a fishing line, said tackle comprising:
a fish hook operable to be coupled to the fishing line;
a clip removably coupled to the hook and including a first and a second jaw,
said first and second jaws being shiftable relative to each other into and out of a clamping position wherein the jaws are adapted to hold the lure; and
a sleeve received on the hook and slidable relative to the hook and at least one of the jaws into a retention position wherein the sleeve encircles at least a portion of the hook and at least a portion of said at least one jaw to thereby removably couple the clip to the hook.
- [c17] 17. The tackle as claimed in claim 16, said jaws being yieldably biased into the clamping position.

- [c18] 18.The tackle as claimed in claim 17,
said clip including a spring disposed between said jaws
for yieldably biasing the jaws into the clamping position.
- [c19] 19.The tackle as claimed in claim 16,
said sleeve comprising an elongated hollow cylinder.
- [c20] 20.The tackle as claimed in claim 19,
said sleeve being formed of a flexible material.
- [c21] 21.The tackle as claimed in claim 20,
said material being substantially comprised of
polyurethane.
- [c22] 22.The tackle as claimed in claim 16,
said at least one jaw being said first jaw,
said sleeve generally preventing said first jaw from shift-
ing relative to the hook and the second jaw when the
sleeve is in the retention position.
- [c23] 23.The tackle as claimed in claim 22,
said hook including a shaft portion, a barbed end spaced
from the shaft portion, and a bend disposed between the
shaft portion and the barbed end.
- [c24] 24.The tackle as claimed in claim 23,
said at least a portion of the hook comprising said shaft
portion.

[c25] 25.The tackle as claimed in claim 24,
said second jaw being positioned between said barbed
end and said shaft portion when the jaws are in the
clamping position and the sleeve is in the retention posi-
tion.

[c26] 26.The tackle as claimed in claim 16,
said hook including an eyelet formed in one end thereof
and an opposed barbed end spaced from said eyelet,
said hook further including a shaft portion extending
between said opposed ends,
said hook further including a first bend disposed be-
tween the barbed end and the shaft portion and a sec-
ond bend disposed between the shaft portion and the
eyelet.

[c27] 27.The tackle as claimed in claim 26,
said at least one jaw being said first jaw,
said first jaw including a first end and an opposite
spaced second end,
said first jaw end defining an aperture therein configured
to be slidably received over the barbed end of the hook
and prevented from sliding over the eyelet.

[c28] 28.The tackle as claimed in claim 27,
said at least a portion of said first jaw being said second

jaw end,

said aperture being received on said second bend when the sleeve is in the retention position so that the first jaw is adjacent to and extends generally parallel with the shaft portion of the hook.

[c29] 29.A method of baiting a fishing hook comprising the steps of:

- (a) coupling a lure-attachment clip to the hook; and
- (b) clamping a first lure in the clip.

[c30] 30.The method as claimed in claim 29,
step (b) being performed after step (a).

[c31] 31.The method as claimed in claim 30;
(c) unclamping the first lure from the clip and removing the first lure from the clip; and
(d) after step (c), clamping a second lure in the clip.

[c32] 32.The method as claimed in claim 29,
said first lure comprising live bait.

[c33] 33.The method as claimed in claim 32; and
(c) coupling a portion of the first lure to the hook so that the first lure is secured to both the clip and the hook.

[c34] 34.The method as claimed in claim 29,
step (a) including the steps of coupling one end of the

clip to the hook and then sliding a flexible sleeve over the hook and over at least a portion of the other end of the clip to thereby removably couple the clip to the hook.

[c35] 35. The method as claimed in claim 29,
step (a) including the step shiftably coupling a clip jaw relative to the hook,
step (b) including the step of clamping the lure between the clip jaw and a portion of the hook so that the lure is engagingly received between the jaw and the portion of the hook.